



USAID | TAJIKISTAN

NEWS ITEM

The USAID Commercial Law Project works with Tajik Government on Civil Code amendments

Dushanbe, Tajikistan. The USAID Commercial Law Project, implemented by ARD/Checchi, jointly with the Presidential Administration of the Republic of Tajikistan, sponsored a conference to discuss the process of amending the Civil Code of the Republic of Tajikistan, Part 1, on Thursday, 4 May, 2006 at 09:00 at the Kokhi Vakhdat Conference Center in Dushanbe. United States Ambassador Richard Hoagland participated in the conference, where he praised the continuing cooperation between the United States and Tajikistan to improve the legal framework in Tajikistan as necessary to allow economic growth, an improved environment for business, and an improved standard of living for citizens of Tajikistan.

USAID has been working closely with the Government of Tajikistan for several years to improve and expand the Civil Code, train judges and lawyers in how to properly apply it, and provide Civil Code commentary for legal professionals. In 2004, USAID's Commercial Law Project published and distributed 1,300 copies of A Commentary on Civil Code, Part 1, authored by Tajik experts. The USAID Commercial Law Project also assisted in drafting Part 3 of the Civil Code, adopted by Parliament in 2004.

The Conference on May 4 was an important step in the process of updating Part 1 of the Civil Code, which includes the law of commercial relations among physical persons and legal entities, contract law, property rights and protection of property rights, secured transactions and lending law, and the law of legal entities. At the conference, Tajik and international civil law experts discussed the plan for amending Part 1 of the Civil Code with representatives of government, courts, the business community, academia, public associations, and members of the international community.

International experts attending the conference included Peter B. Maggs, Senior Professor of Law, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and Anatoly Grigoriyevich Didenko, Professor and Head of Civil Law Department of Kazakh Humanitarian Law Academy (formerly known as Kazakh State Law University).

Tajik experts participating included Bakhtiyor Khudoyorov, Chief of Constitutional Guarantees Department of the President's Office of the Republic of Tajikistan, Head of Working Group;



Deputy Minister of Justice Rustam Mengliev, Head of the legal department of the President's office Jumahon Davlatov, and U.S. Ambassador Richard Hoagland at the conference.

Photo: USAID Commercial Law Project

Professor Shomurod Mengliev, Head of International Law Department, Law Faculty of Tajik State National University; Lola Rakhmanova, Senior Teacher of the Civil Law Department, Law Faculty of Russian-Tajik (Slavonic) University; and Rustam Mengliev, Deputy Minister of Justice of the Republic of Tajikistan. This working group of Tajik experts, in collaboration with colleagues from other countries, has developed more than 200 pages of amendments to Part 1 of the Civil Code and explanatory analysis.

"Open and inclusive dialog on amending major laws like the Civil Code is an important part of democratic society," said Ambassador Hoagland. "The United States is very pleased to play a role in this process, and especially to cooperate closely with the Presidential Administration to sponsor this conference to facilitate such dialog."

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